

NOTICE ASSIGNMENT CONTROL SHEET

LOG CONTROL NUMBER: 119

ANALYST

ASSIGNED: SCHUBART

ACTION: AN

**TITLE: OVERVIEW INFORMATION – TECHNOLOGY AND
MEDIA SERVICES FOR INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES
– INSTITUTE ON TECHNOLOGY EFFECTIVENESS FOR
CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES: WEB-SUPPORTED
INSTRUCTIONAL APPROACHES**

RECEIVED: 3/27/07

DATE ASSIGNED: 3/27/07

DATE DUE: 4/2/07

ANALYST SIGNATURE: Joseph Schubart

COMPLETION DATE: March 27, 2007

FINAL APPROVAL: Angela Livingston DATE: 3-27-07

OMB NO: 1820-0028

REG PART: 1/31/07

Rudolph, Kim

From: Schubart, Joe
Sent: Tuesday, March 27, 2007 2:03 PM
To: Johnson, Janet; McFadden, Elizabeth; Sturdivant, Debra; Dunmore, Sherron; Pepin, Andrew
Cc: Arrington, Angela; Rudolph, Kim; Mullan, Kate
Subject: FW: Request for Clearance for OSERS/OSEP--T&M--Web-Supported Instructional Approaches (CFDA No. 84.327W) Notice Inviting Applications

Hi Janet,

I have reviewed this closing date notice and approve of you publishing it in the federal register. Its related information collection was recently cleared by OMB and lasts until January 2009. This is unusual to have a program go back to the public for a more significant proposal after the original notice produced no fundable results.

-----Original Message-----

From: Johnson, Janet
Sent: Tuesday, March 27, 2007 9:26 AM
To: Winters, Deborah; Faulkner, Janice; Jeffrey, Scott; Woodsome, James; Snyder, Martha; Wade, Maria; Cubarrubia, Archie; Henderson, Carrie; McFadden, Elizabeth; Higgins, Shannan; Rosen, Jeff; McGrath, Jack; Cogdill, David; Rudolph, Kim; Holloway, Michael; Rodriguez, Blanca; Harding, Natasha; Howard, Khrista
Cc: Tada, Wendy; Arrington, Angela; Hyler, James; Mullan, Kate; Winston, Melanie; Sturdivant, Debra
Subject: Request for Clearance for OSERS/OSEP--T&M--Web-Supported Instructional Approaches (CFDA No. 84.327W) Notice Inviting Applications

Please review the attached draft Notice Inviting Applications for OSERS/OSEP--Technology and Media Services for Individuals with Disabilities--Institute on Technology Effectiveness for Children with Disabilities: Web-Supported Instructional Approaches (CFDA No. 84.327W). Send me your comments and/or concurrence by C.O.B. Monday, April 2. Thank you.



327W-Web
proaches-Draft1.doc



327W--Clearance
Sheet.doc

Janet Johnson
Division of Regulatory Services/OGC
202-401-6250

REGULATIONS CLEARANCE SHEET
OFFICE OF THE GENERAL COUNSEL
DIVISION OF REGULATORY SERVICES (DRS)

DRAFT NO.: 1

DATE: March 27, 2007

Please review the attached document, check the appropriate box below, sign, and return with your comments, if any, or e-mail your response and any comments to Janet Johnson (Rm.6C124). Your response is due by C.O.B. Monday, April 2.

Office of the Secretary*

[X] Deborah Winters, Ex. Sec., 7C100
[X] Janice Faulkner, 7W223

Office of the Deputy Secretary*

[X] Scott Jeffrey, 7W316
cc: Wendy Tada

Office of Planning, Evaluation & Policy Development*

[X] James Woodsome, 5E325
[X] Martha Snyder, 5E339
[X] Budget Service, Maria Wade, 5W311

Office of the Under Secretary*

[X] Archie Cubarrubia, 7E319
[X] Carrie Henderson, 7E313

Office of the General Counsel

Deputy General Counsel

[] Jeff Taylor, 6E339

Assistant General Counsel/DRS

[X] E. McFadden, 6E217*

Deputy Assistant General Counsel/DRS

[X] Shannan Higgins, 6C135

Program Attorney/DEER

[X] Jeff Rosen, 6E202

Legislation & Congressional Affairs*

[X] Jack McGrath, 6W332

Office of Management

[X] David Cogdill, 2W225
[X] Kim Rudolph, 9152 PCP
cc: Angela Arrington
cc: James Hyler
cc: Kate Mullan
[] Dianne Novick, RIMS {Send only SORs}

Chief Financial Officer & Chief Information Officer

[X] Michael Holloway, 4E231
[X] Blanca Rodriguez, Charlesetta Griffin,
cc: Natasha Harding, GPOS, 3652 ROB-3*
[X] Khriiss Howard, 4E320

Special Education & Rehabilitative Services

cc: Melanie J. Winston, 5061 PCP
cc: Debra Sturdivant, 4106 PCP

Program Contact: Debra Sturdivant

Scheduler: Melanie J. Winston

CHECK ONE

- | |
|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Approved
<input type="checkbox"/> Approved subject to minor changes
<input type="checkbox"/> Not approved-see comments |
|--|

TYPE AND TITLE OF DOCUMENT: Notice Inviting Applications for OSERS/OSEP--Technology and Media Services for Individuals with Disabilities--Institute on Technology Effectiveness for Children with Disabilities: Web-Supported Instructional Approaches (CFDA No. 84.327W).

SIGNATURE: Joseph Schubar DATE: March 27, 2007

COMMENTS: 1820-0028

4000-01-U

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services

Overview Information

Technology and Media Services for Individuals with

Disabilities--Institute on Technology Effectiveness for

Children with Disabilities: Web-Supported Instructional
Approaches

Notice inviting applications for new awards for fiscal year
(FY) 2007

Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) Number:

84.327W

Dates:

Applications Available: (INSERT DATE OF PUBLICATION IN THE
FEDERAL REGISTER).

Deadline for Transmittal of Applications: (INSERT DATE 45
DAYS AFTER DATE OF PUBLICATION IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER).

Deadline for Intergovernmental Review: (INSERT DATE 105
DAYS AFTER DATE OF PUBLICATION IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER).

Eligible Applicants: State educational agencies (SEAs);
local educational agencies (LEAs); public charter schools
that are LEAs under State law; institutions of higher
education (IHEs); other public agencies; private nonprofit

organizations; outlying areas; freely associated States; Indian tribes or tribal organizations; and for-profit organizations.

Estimated Available Funds: \$500,000 Maximum Award: We will reject any application that proposes a budget exceeding \$500,000 for a single budget period of 12 months. The Assistant Secretary for Special Education and Rehabilitative Services may change the maximum amount through a notice published in the Federal Register.

Number of Awards: 1.

Note: The Department is not bound by any estimates in this notice.

Project Period: Up to 60 months.

Full Text of Announcement

I. Funding Opportunity Description

Purpose of Program: The purpose of this program is to: (1) improve results for children with disabilities by promoting the development, demonstration, and use of technology; (2) support educational media services activities designed to be of educational value in the classroom setting to children with disabilities; and (3) provide support for captioning and video description that is appropriate for use in the classroom setting.

Priority: In accordance with 34 CFR 75.105(b)(2)(iv), this priority is from allowable activities specified in the statute (see sections 674 and 681(d) of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA)).

Absolute Priority: For FY 2007 this priority is an absolute priority. Under 34 CFR 75.105(c)(3), we consider only applications that meet this priority.

This priority is:

Technology and Media Services for Individuals with Disabilities--Institute on Technology Effectiveness for Children with Disabilities: Web-Supported Instructional Approaches.

Background: On September 26 2006, we published a notice in the Federal Register (71 FR 56133) inviting applications for new awards under the Research on Technology Effectiveness and Implementation for Children with Disabilities: Web-Supported Instructional Approaches competition. We received several applications for grants under the competition, however, we did not receive any fundable applications. To better clarify our intent and to improve future applications, we made some changes in the background section and priority requirements and are reissuing the notice inviting applications under a new

title, the Institute on Technology Effectiveness for Children with Disabilities: Web-Supported Instructional Approaches competition.

A number of Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP)-funded projects have developed and tested World Wide Web-supported approaches for improving educational results for children with disabilities. In some cases, these projects have used generally available Web resources (e.g., newspaper sites, museum sites, and search engines). In other cases, the projects have developed specialized Web sites (e.g., simulation of learning environments, discussion boards, and strategy reminders) to improve student learning.

Web-supported educational approaches have a number of potential benefits for students with disabilities. Web-based instruction is distinct from other forms of instruction in certain ways, such as the availability of multiple types of media (text, video, graphics, audio), the possibility of real time remote collaboration and communication, the access it provides to vast quantities of information, and the ability for students to participate in global classrooms. The Web can support varied learning strategies and activities that can be designed to address

different student needs. For example, they can provide supports to compensate for learning difficulties, sensory impairments, and academic skill deficits. Research on the benefits of Web-supported approaches for students with disabilities is not entirely conclusive, however. While some studies have found the Web or some of its features to be effective in teaching and learning, other studies have not found the Web to be effective in teaching. We also have little information about whether Web-based resources that provide access for one population of students may create accessibility barriers for others (e.g., graphic features may not be accessible to students with visual impairments, hyper-linked resources or graphic organizers may increase intellectual demands and thus create barriers for students with cognitive disabilities). Finally, the effectiveness of Web-supported instruction in widespread use in typical educational environments has not been fully explored.

Priority

This priority supports an institute to conduct a systematic program of research on the use of Web-supported instructional approaches to improve access to, and participation and progress in, the general curriculum for

students with disabilities. In carrying out its research, the institute must apply the principles of universal design (i.e., design of products that will be usable by children with different disabilities, to the greatest extent possible, with minimal need for additional adaptations).

In their applications, applicants must:

- (a) Propose an operational definition and key features of Web-supported instruction to be used in a program of research;
- (b) Describe their access to existing Web-supported instructional materials that will allow the institute to proceed quickly with the research without substantial time devoted to additional development;
- (c) Propose instructional approaches and products to be examined that represent a range of key features of Web-supported instruction that might be relevant to the education of students with disabilities;
- (d) Present a plan for conducting a program of research to answer the following questions: (1) Do Web-supported instructional approaches and products identified in activity (c) improve learning of academic content for students with disabilities in educational settings with typical resources and levels of teacher support? (2) What

characteristics of Web-supported instruction facilitate or impede access to and learning of academic content for students with disabilities? (3) What student characteristics (e.g., disability, age/grade level, technology skills) and contextual factors (e.g., teacher training, hardware resources, student groupings) influence the effectiveness of Web-supported instruction?

This plan may focus on specific academic content areas or student ages, but, at a minimum, must address research question (1) separately for each of the following populations: students with learning disabilities, students with mental retardation, students with visual impairments or blindness, students with hearing impairments or deafness, students with emotional disturbance, and students with physical disabilities.

Research question (1) is intended to test causal relationships, and the research must employ rigorous experimental designs using randomized assignment to determine treatment effects.

Applicants must fully describe instruments and methodologies and must provide a power analysis to document that available sample sizes and methodologies are sufficient to produce the precision needed to yield

conclusive findings. Experimental research may be supplemented with qualitative or non-experimental methodologies, provided sufficient rigor is maintained.

The plan must provide for conducting the majority of research in educational environments using typical resources and levels of teacher support.

Once funded, the institute must:

(a) Establish a technical review board to review its operational definition of Web-supported instructional approaches and its research plans, and identify any needed improvements.

(b) Revise its operational definition of Web-supported instructional approaches and its research plan in accordance with comments from the technical review board and input from the U.S. Department of Education.

(c) Conduct the program of research called for in its plan, as revised, taking appropriate steps to ensure that the research is rigorous and objective. Toward this end, the institute must maintain communication with the U.S. Department of Education and the technical review board to identify needed corrective actions.

(d) Disseminate findings to appropriate audiences. The institute must submit reports for publication in peer-

reviewed professional journals and for presentation at professional conferences, and must post reports on a Web site that meets a government or industry-recognized standard for accessibility.

(e) Formulate and disseminate research-based guidelines for the development and use of the Web to support instruction and to improve access to, and participation and progress in the general curriculum for students with disabilities.

(f) Budget for a three-day Project Directors' meeting and a two-day Technology Innovation meeting, each in Washington, DC during each year of the project.

(g) Budget five percent of the grant amount annually to support emerging needs as identified jointly through consultation with the OSEP project officer.

Waiver of Proposed Rulemaking: Under the Administrative Procedure Act (APA) (5 U.S.C. 553), the Department generally offers interested parties the opportunity to comment on proposed priorities. However, section 681(d) of the IDEA makes the public comment requirements of the APA inapplicable to the priority in this notice.

Program Authority: 20 U.S.C. 1474 and 1481.

Applicable Regulations: The Education Department General Administrative Regulations (EDGAR) in 34 CFR parts 74, 75, 77, 79, 80, 81, 82, 84, 85, 86, 97, 98, and 99.

Note: The regulations in 34 CFR part 79 apply to all applicants except federally recognized Indian tribes.

Note: The regulations in 34 CFR part 86 apply to IHEs only.

II. Award Information

Type of Award: Cooperative agreement.

Estimated Available Funds: \$500,000 Maximum Award: We will reject any application that proposes a budget exceeding \$500,000 for a single budget period of 12 months. The Assistant Secretary for Special Education and Rehabilitative Services may change the maximum amount through a notice published in the Federal Register.

Estimated Number of Awards: 1.

Note: The Department is not bound by any estimates in this notice.

Project Period: Up to 60 months.

III. Eligibility Information

1. Eligible Applicants: SEAs; LEAs; public charter schools that are LEAs under State law; IHEs; other public agencies; private nonprofit organizations; outlying areas;

freely associated States; Indian tribes or tribal organizations; and for-profit organizations.

2. Cost Sharing or Matching: This competition does not involve cost sharing or matching.

3. Other: General Requirements-- (a) The projects funded under this competition must make positive efforts to employ and advance in employment qualified individuals with disabilities (see section 606 of IDEA).

(b) Applicants and grant recipients funded under this competition must involve individuals with disabilities or parents of individuals with disabilities ages birth through 26 in planning, implementing, and evaluating the projects (see section 682(a)(1)(A) of IDEA).

IV. Application and Submission Information

1. Address to Request Application Package: Education Publications Center (ED Pubs), P.O. Box 1398, Jessup, MD 20794-1398. Telephone (toll free): 1-877-433-7827. FAX: (301) 470-1244. If you use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD), you may call (toll free): 1-877-576-7734.

You may also contact ED Pubs at its Web site: www.ed.gov/pubs/edpubs.html or you may contact ED Pubs at its e-mail address: edpubs@inet.ed.gov

If you request an application from ED Pubs, be sure to identify this competition as follows: CFDA number 84.327W.

Individuals with disabilities may obtain a copy of the application package in an alternative format (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotape, or computer diskette) by contacting the Grants and Contracts Services Team listed under For Further Information Contact in section VII of this notice.

2. Content and Form of Application Submission:

Requirements concerning the content of an application, together with the forms you must submit, are in the application package for this competition.

Page Limit: The application narrative (Part III of the application) is where you, the applicant, address the selection criteria that reviewers use to evaluate your application. You must limit Part III to the equivalent of no more than 70 pages, using the following standards:

- A "page" is 8.5" x 11", on one side only, with 1" margins at the top, bottom, and both sides.
- Double space (no more than three lines per vertical inch) all text in the application narrative, including titles, headings, footnotes, quotations, references, and

captions, as well as all text in charts, tables, figures, and graphs.

- Use a font that is either 12-point or larger or no smaller than 10 pitch (characters per inch).

The page limit does not apply to Part I, the cover sheet; Part II, the budget section, including the narrative budget justification; Part IV, the assurances and certifications; or the one-page abstract, the resumes, the bibliography, the references, or the letters of support. However, you must include all of the application narrative in Part III.

We will reject your application if--

- You apply these standards and exceed the page limit;
- or
- You apply other standards and exceed the equivalent of the page limit.

3. Submission Dates and Times:

Applications Available: (INSERT DATE OF PUBLICATION IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER).

Deadline for Transmittal of Applications: (INSERT DATE 45 DAYS AFTER DATE OF PUBLICATION IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER).

Applications for grants under this competition may be submitted electronically using the Grants.gov Apply site

(Grants.gov), or in paper format by mail or hand delivery. For information (including dates and times) about how to submit your application electronically, or by mail or hand delivery, please refer to section IV. 6. Other Submission Requirements in this notice.

We do not consider an application that does not comply with the deadline requirements.

Individuals with disabilities who need an accommodation or auxiliary aid in connection with the application process should contact the person listed under For Further Information Contact.

Deadline for Intergovernmental Review: (INSERT DATE 105 DAYS AFTER DATE OF PUBLICATION IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER).

4. Intergovernmental Review: This program is subject to Executive Order 12372 and the regulations in 34 CFR part 79. Information about Intergovernmental Review of Federal Programs under Executive Order 12372 is in the application package for this competition.

5. Funding Restrictions: We reference regulations outlining funding restrictions in the Applicable Regulations section of this notice.

6. Other Submission Requirements: Applications for grants under this competition may be submitted electronically or in paper format by mail or hand delivery.

a. Electronic Submission of Applications.

To comply with the President's Management Agenda, we are participating as a partner in the Governmentwide Grants.gov Apply site. The Institute on Technology Effectiveness for Children with Disabilities: Web-Supported Instructional Approaches competition--CFDA number 84.327W is included in this project. We request your participation in Grants.gov.

If you choose to submit your application electronically, you must use the Governmentwide Grants.gov Apply site at <http://www.Grants.gov>. Through this site, you will be able to download a copy of the application package, complete it offline, and then upload and submit your application. You may not e-mail an electronic copy of a grant application to us.

You may access the electronic grant application for the Institute on Technology Effectiveness for Children with Disabilities: Web-Supported Instructional Approaches competition--CFDA number 84.327W at: <http://www.grants.gov>. You must search for the

downloadable application package for this program by the CFDA number. Do not include the CFDA number's alpha suffix in your search (e.g., search for 84.326, not 84.326A).

Please note the following:

- Your participation in Grants.gov is voluntary.
- When you enter the Grants.gov site, you will find information about submitting an application electronically through the site, as well as the hours of operation.
- Applications received by Grants.gov are date and time stamped. Your application must be fully uploaded and submitted, and must be date and time stamped by the Grants.gov system no later than 4:30 p.m., Washington, DC time, on the application deadline date. Except as otherwise noted in this section, we will not consider your application if it is date and time stamped by the Grants.gov system later than 4:30 p.m., Washington, DC time, on the application deadline date. When we retrieve your application from Grants.gov, we will notify you if we are rejecting your application because it was date and time stamped by the Grants.gov system after 4:30 p.m., Washington, DC time, on the application deadline date.
- The amount of time it can take to upload an application will vary depending on a variety of factors

including the size of the application and the speed of your Internet connection. Therefore, we strongly recommend that you do not wait until the application deadline date to begin the submission process through Grants.gov.

- You should review and follow the Education Submission Procedures for submitting an application through Grants.gov that are included in the application package for this competition to ensure that you submit your application in a timely manner to the Grants.gov system. You can also find the Education Submission Procedures pertaining to Grants.gov at <http://e-Grants.ed.gov/help/GrantsgovSubmissionProcedures.pdf>

- To submit your application via Grants.gov, you must complete all steps in the Grants.gov registration process (see http://www.Grants.gov/applicants/get_registered.jsp). These steps include (1) registering your organization, a multi-part process that includes registration with the Central Contractor Registry (OCR); (2) registering yourself as an Authorized Organization Representative (AOR), and (3) getting authorized as an AOR by your organization. Details on these steps are outlined in the Grants.gov 3-Step Registration Guide (see <http://www.grants.gov/section910/Grants.govRegistrationBroc>

hure.pdf). You also must provide on your application the same D-U-N-S Number used with this registration. Please note that the registration process may take five or more business days to complete, and you must have completed all registration steps to allow you to submit successfully an application via Grants.gov. In addition you will need to update your CCR registration on an annual basis. This may take three or more business days to complete.

- You will not receive additional point value because you submit your application in electronic format, nor will we penalize you if you submit your application in paper format.

- If you submit your application electronically, you must submit all documents electronically, including all information you typically provide on the following forms: Application for Federal Assistance (SF 424), the Department of Education Supplemental Information for SF 424, Budget Information--Non-Construction Programs (ED 524), and all necessary assurances and certifications. Please note that two of these forms--the SF 424 and the Department of Education Supplemental Information for SF 424--have replaced the ED 424 (Application).

- If you submit your application electronically, you must attach any narrative sections of your application as files in a .DOC (document), .RTF (rich text) or .PDF (Portable Document) format. If you upload a file type other than the three file types specified in this paragraph or submit a password protected file, we will not review that material.

- Your electronic application must comply with any page limit requirements described in this notice.

- After you electronically submit your application, you will receive from Grants.gov an automatic notification of receipt that contains a Grants.gov tracking number. (This notification indicates receipt by Grants.gov only, not receipt by the Department.) The Department then will retrieve your application from Grants.gov and send a second confirmation to you by e-mail. This second notification indicates that the Department has received your application and has assigned your application a PR/Award number (an ED-specified identifying number unique to your application).

- We may request that you provide us original signatures on forms at a later date.

Application Deadline Date Extension in Case of Technical Issues with the Grants.gov System: If you are experiencing

problems submitting your application through Grants.gov,
please contact the Grants.gov Support Desk at 1-800-518-
4726. You must obtain a Grants.gov Support Desk Case
Number and must keep a record of it. If you are
prevented from electronically submitting your application
on the application deadline date because of technical
problems with the Grants.gov system, we will grant you an
extension until 4:30 p.m., Washington, DC time, the
following business day to enable you to transmit your
application electronically, or by hand delivery. You also
may mail your application by following the mailing
instructions as described elsewhere in this notice. If you
submit an application after 4:30 p.m., Washington, DC time,
on the application deadline date, please contact the person
listed elsewhere in this notice under For Further
Information Contact and provide an explanation of the
technical problem you experienced with Grants.gov, along
with the Grants.gov Support Desk Case Number. We will
accept your application if we can confirm that a technical
problem occurred with the Grants.gov system and that that
problem affected your ability to submit your application by
4:30 p.m., Washington, DC time, on the application deadline
date. The Department will contact you after a

determination is made on whether your application will be accepted.

Note: The extensions to which we refer in this section apply only to the unavailability of, or technical problems with, the Grants.gov system. We will not grant you an extension if you failed to fully register to submit your application to Grants.gov before the deadline date and time or if the technical problem you experienced is unrelated to the Grants.gov system.

b. Submission of Paper Applications by Mail.

If you submit your application in paper format by mail (through the U.S. Postal Service or a commercial carrier), you must mail the original and two copies of your application, on or before the application deadline date, to the Department at the applicable following address:

By mail through the U.S. Postal Service:

U.S. Department of Education
Application Control Center
Attention: (CFDA Number 84.327W)
400 Maryland Avenue, SW.
Washington, DC 20202-4260

or

By mail through a commercial carrier:

U.S. Department of Education
Application Control Center - Stop 4260
Attention: (CFDA Number 84.327W)
7100 Old Landover Road

Landover, MD 20785-1506

Regardless of which address you use, you must show proof of mailing consisting of one of the following:

- (1) A legibly dated U.S. Postal Service postmark,
- (2) A legible mail receipt with the date of mailing stamped by the U.S. Postal Service,
- (3) A dated shipping label, invoice, or receipt from a commercial carrier, or
- (4) Any other proof of mailing acceptable to the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Education.

If you mail your application through the U.S. Postal Service, we do not accept either of the following as proof of mailing:

- (1) A private metered postmark, or
- (2) A mail receipt that is not dated by the U.S. Postal Service.

If your application is postmarked after the application deadline date, we will not consider your application.

Note: The U.S. Postal Service does not uniformly provide a dated postmark. Before relying on this method, you should check with your local post office.

c. Submission of Paper Applications by Hand Delivery.

If you submit your application in paper format by hand delivery, you (or a courier service) must deliver the original and two copies of your application by hand, on or before the application deadline date, to the Department at the following address:

U.S. Department of Education
Application Control Center
Attention: (CFDA Number 84.327W)
550 12th Street, SW.
Room 7041, Potomac Center Plaza
Washington, DC 20202-4260

The Application Control Center accepts hand deliveries daily between 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Washington, DC time, except Saturdays, Sundays and Federal holidays.

Note for Mail or Hand Delivery of Paper Applications: If you mail or hand deliver your application to the Department--

(1) You must indicate on the envelope and--if not provided by the Department--in Item 11 of SF 424 the CFDA number, including suffix letter, if any, of the competition under which you are submitting your application; and

(2) The Application Control Center will mail to you a notification of receipt of your grant application. If you do not receive this notification within 15 business days from the application deadline date, you should call the

U.S. Department of Education Application Control Center at
(202) 245-6288.

V. Application Review Information

1. Selection Criteria: The selection criteria for this competition are from 34 CFR 75.210 and are listed in the application package.

2. Treating A Priority As Two Separate Competitions:
In the past, there have been problems in finding peer reviewers without conflicts of interest for competitions in which many entities throughout the country submit applications. The Standing Panel requirements under IDEA also have placed additional constraints on the availability of reviewers. Therefore, the Department has determined that, for some discretionary competitions, applications may be separated into two or more groups and ranked and selected for funding within the specific group. This procedure will ensure the availability of a much larger group of reviewers without conflicts of interest. It also will increase the quality, independence and fairness of the review process and permit panel members to review applications under discretionary competitions for which they have also submitted applications. However, if the Department decides to select for funding an equal number of

applications in each group, this may result in different cut-off points for fundable applications in each group.

VI. Award Administration Information

1. Award Notices: If your application is successful, we notify your U.S. Representative and U.S. Senators and send you a Grant Award Notification (GAN). We may also notify you informally.

If your application is not evaluated or not selected for funding, we notify you.

2. Administrative and National Policy Requirements: We identify administrative and national policy requirements in the application package and reference these and other requirements in the Applicable Regulations section of this notice.

We reference the regulations outlining the terms and conditions of an award in the Applicable Regulations section of this notice and include these and other specific conditions in the GAN. The GAN also incorporates your approved application as part of your binding commitments under the grant.

3. Reporting: At the end of your project period, you must submit a final performance report, including financial information, as directed by the Secretary. If you receive

a multi-year award, you must submit an annual performance report that provides the most current performance and financial expenditure information as specified by the Secretary in 34 CFR 75.118.

4. Performance Measures: Under the Government Performance and Results Act (GPRA), the Department has developed measures that will yield information on various aspects of the quality of the Technology and Media Services for Individuals with Disabilities program. These measures focus on the extent to which projects are of high quality, are relevant to the needs of children with disabilities, and contribute to improving the results for children with disabilities. Data on these measures will be collected from the projects funded under this competition.

Grantees also will be required to report information on their projects' performance in annual reports to the Department (34 CFR 75.590).

VII. Agency Contact

For Further Information Contact: Jane Hauser, U.S.

Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue, SW., room 4067, Potomac Center Plaza, Washington, DC 20202-2550.

Telephone: (202) 245-7373.

If you use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD), you may call the Federal Relay Service (FRS) at 1-800-877-8339.

Individuals with disabilities may obtain this document in an alternative format (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotape, or computer diskette) on request by contacting the following office: The Grants and Contracts Services Team, U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue, SW., Potomac Center Plaza, Washington, DC 20202-2550. Telephone: (202) 245-7363.

VIII. Other Information

Electronic Access to This Document: You may view this document, as well as all other documents of this Department published in the Federal Register, in text or Adobe Portable Document Format (PDF) on the Internet at the following site: www.ed.gov/news/fedregister

To use PDF you must have Adobe Acrobat Reader, which is available free at this site. If you have questions about using PDF, call the U.S. Government Printing Office (GPO), toll free, at 1-888-293-6498; or in the Washington, DC, area at (202) 512-1530.

Note: The official version of this document is the document published in the Federal Register. Free Internet access to the official edition of the Federal Register and the Code of Federal Regulations is available on GPO Access at: www.gpoaccess.gov/nara/index.html

Dated:

John H. Hager,
Assistant Secretary for Special
Education and Rehabilitative
Services.